

22. (New) The lens of claim 9, wherein the segments of the third region are radial segments.

23. (New) The lens of claim 22, wherein the radial segments are triangular in shape.

24. (New) The lens of claim 10, wherein the segments of the third region are radial segments.

25. (New) The lens of claim 25, wherein the radial segments are triangular in shape.

26. (New) The lens of claim 7, wherein the monofocal region surrounds the multifocal region and the third region surrounds the monofocal region.

27. (New) The lens of claim 8, wherein the monofocal region surrounds the multifocal region and the third region surrounds the monofocal region.

29. (New) The lens of claim 9, wherein the monofocal region surrounds the multifocal region and the third region surrounds the monofocal region.

30. (New) The lens of claim 10, wherein the monofocal region surrounds the multifocal region and the third region surrounds the monofocal region.

REMARKS

The Examiner rejected claims 1 through 3, 5, 6, 11, and 12 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,173,723 to Volk. According to the Examiner, the Volk reference discloses “an optic having a first region that is a multifocal region ... a second region that is a monofocal region ... and a third region of alternating

distance optical power segments and near optical power segments ...wherein the near power segments are asymmetrical ...”

Applicants’ claimed invention is directed to a lens in, at the center of the optic, is a multifocal region with, as one moves toward the lens’ periphery, a monofocal region and a third region of alternating distance and near segments. The Volk reference fails to teach or disclose such a lens and, thus, cannot be the basis for a Section 102(b) rejection. Withdrawal of the Section 103(b) rejection is respectfully requested.

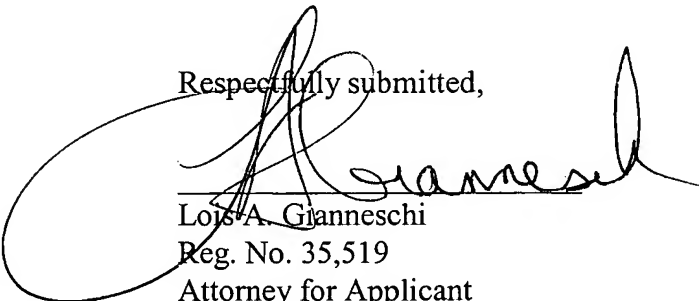
The Examiner rejected claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Volk in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,812,237 to Roddy. According to the Examiner, the Roddy reference discloses lens with cylinder power along with regions of multifocal, monofocal and asymmetric near power. Again, however, Roddy fails to teach or disclose Applicants claimed invention and, whether considered singly or in combination with Volk, does not render Applicants’ claimed lens obvious.

Applicants submit that the claims are in condition for allowance. Withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

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